GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3429
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2017
Indigenization of Telecom Equipment
Adsul Shri Anandrao

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector has been a major contributor to economic growth registered across the world including India;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the share of the said sector in the growth registered during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has set up Telecom Equipment and Service Export Promotion Council (TEPC) to initiate the conceptualization of Information Super-Highway in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to take steps to indigenize the research and development of telecom equipments and if so, the details thereof including the other measures taken so far by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) It is widely believed that the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector plays a major role in the economic growth in various countries, although the estimates of the impact of the ICT sector in growth have varied in reports/papers brought out by different researchers and organizations.

As per an article entitled "The Impact of ICT on the Global Economy", published on 22.12.2015, ICTs have contributed upto one quarter of GDP growth in most developed countries during the first decade of 21st Century. The article is available at http://www.enterpriseinnovation.net/article/impact-ict-global-economy-1388124773

(b) In India, the share of ICT/communication sector in GDP is not specifically calculated by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO). This sector is included within the broad group, "Trade, Hotels, Transport, Communications and Services relating to Broadcasting". The share of this sector/group in the GDP for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 is given below:

Share of services sector including communications in GDP (Gross Value Added at 2011-12 prices)
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Sector Share in GDP
2014-15
(First Revised Estimate) 2015-16
(Provisional Estimate) 2016-17
(First Advanced Estimate)
Trade, Hotels, Transport, Communications and Services relating to Broadcasting

18.85%

19.16%

18.98%
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Source: Ministry of Statistics &Programme Implementation

(c) Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) has been set up by the Government to promote and develop

exports of telecom equipment and services.
(d) TEPC undertakes activities aimed at export promotion such as commissioning of studies to find potential markets, holding of National/International seminars and facilitating participation of exporters in various domestic and overseas exhibitions.
(e) The steps taken by the Government to indigenize the research and development of telecom equipments are as under:
i) Department of Telecommunications along with industry and academic institutions have established eight Telecom Centers of Excellence (TCOEs) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) at premier academic institutes of the country with the objective of creating an ecosystem for a sustained, high rate of growth of telecom sector in the country. TCOEs are created for promoting development of new technologies, to generate IPRs, incubate innovations and promote entrepreneurship to position India as a global leader in telecom innovation and making India a hub of telecom equipment manufacturing. So far, TCOEs have produced 80 technologies out of which 4 technologies have been commercialized.
ii) Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI), has been set up and has been recognized by DoT as India's Telecom Standards Development Organization. TSDSI aims at developing and promoting India specific requirements, standardizing solutions for meeting these requirements and contributing these to international standards, contributing to global standardization in the field of telecommunications, maintaining the technical standards and other deliverables of the organization, safeguarding the related IPR, etc.
iii) With a view to encourage domestic manufacturing of telecom equipments, Government has notified the Preferential Market Access (PMA) policy under which 23 telecom products have been notified for Government procurement.

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